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Harvard chief defends action

From Sun-Times Wires

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Harvard president Nathan M. Pusey said Friday that he called for police to evict student protesters from University Hall because they had broken into confidential financial files and told a dean they planned to shut down the university.

"The occupiers had already begun to rifle and duplicate the faculty personnel files and financial records," Pusey said.

Dean of faculty Franklin L. Ford said earlier that reproductions of confidential documents were published by an underground newspaper, Old Mole. Ford mentioned two that concerned the Central Intelligence Agency.

Pusey, commenting publicly for the first time on the raid by 400 policemen Thursday, said of the protesters: "They did not intend to bargain.

"It was quite clear that the issue was a direct assault upon the authority of the university and upon rational processes and accepted procedures."

The students took over the three-story stone

building Wednesday, aiming their protest mainly at the university Reserve Officer Training Corps program.

Their eviction by police touched off discontent on the 15,000-student university, fanned by a Students for a Democratic Society call for a three-day strike.

The effects of the strike were not easily measured Friday, although classes were lighter than usual. The Divinity School canceled all classes until Tuesday. One report said half the students remained away from classes.

The faculty, meanwhile, criticized both student demonstrators and the use of police against them.

In a 395-to-13 vote it adopted a resolution that said it "deplores the forcible occupation of University Hall," but "as members of a community committed to rationality and freedom, we also deplore the entry of police into any university."

The faculty recommended that criminal charges against students and faculty be dropped and said it would elect a committee to

investigate the causes of the occupation, take charge of discipline in the case and consult with representatives of students and the other faculties.

Dean Ford said one of the letters stole from the files and reproduced by the underground weekly was that of a Harvard headmaster informing Ford that he was consultant to the CIA.

Another was the copy of a proposal by Harvard to the CIA for a project to be carried out by Harvard.

Another reproduced letter, dated 1957, was addressed to the assistant secretary of state by McGeorge Bundy, a former Harvard dean who was in the State Department during the administrations of Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson. The letter was a recommendation for appointment of Prof. Henry Kissinger to a State Department post recommendation for appointment of Prof. He also was an adviser to President Kennedy. Kissinger now is an adviser to President Nixon.